The meeting was called to order by Joan Goff, District Director at 10:05 a.m.

Roll Call of Societies: Carole Schmitz, Secretary
19 of 25 societies were represented. Absent were: Honolulu, Monterey Bay, Peninsula, Reno, San Mateo County, and Stockton.

Secretary’s Report: The Secretary’s report from the 2017 Fall Business meeting was accepted as presented and posted on the website.

Treasurer’s Report: The Treasurer’s report was accepted as presented. Lou Evans presented the 2018 proposed budget. Bob Parker made a motion to accept the budget, seconded by Martine LaBelle. Motion carried unanimously.

District Director’s Report – Joan Goff, District Director:
Joan thanked the Shasta Rose Society for hosting our Spring Business Meeting.

We are going to have a new society on the big island of Hawaii. This society will be centered in Hilo. More information on this society will be forthcoming.

Joan acknowledged some of the outstanding newsletter editors in our district, and encouraged all societies to send her copies of their newsletters.

We received 50 boxes of vases from a society that disbanded in Southern California. The vases will be free to anyone that wants them and are located at Dave Coop’s house in Roseville.

Joan will be going to the Mini-Miniflora National Conference in Jacksonville, Florida, May 2.

Our nominating committee has been diligent in coming up with a slate of officers for the next three-year term. Bob Martin will be installed at the San Diego convention in late October and Sue Bennett will be installed as our new District Director at this same convention.

We are very pleased that Diane Sommers, Candidate for Vice President of the American Rose Society, is here today and will speak to us briefly about her visions for ARS.

ELECTIONS FOR NCNH BOARD 3 YEAR TERM (12/18-11/21)
Cindy Phipps, Nominating Committee Chair, presented the following slate of candidates for the NCNH District Board:

- Deputy District Director       Scott Becker
- Treasurer                    Lou Evans
- Secretary                    Cindy Phipps
- Chairperson of Nominations/Awards  Marianne Jamison

No other nominations were made from the floor. Sue Bennett made a motion to accept this slate of officers; Jolene Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
Consulting Rosarian Report – Jolene Adams CR Chair:
Currently we have 143 active CRs and 1 inactive by request. There are 50 Emeritus CRs, some of which are still active at the local level. 135 CRs completed their annual CR report, and 134 CRs completed Roses In Review.

There will be a CR school this fall in San Francisco (October).

After the ARS fall Convention in San Diego the new ARS President will let us know who our National CR Chair will be. At that time all of the local societies in this District need to appoint a Local Society CR Coordinator for their society to serve a three-year term.

Horticulture Judges Report – Bob Parker Chair:
We have 57 judges including 2 apprentice judges in our district and all but one are current on points. All but two completed their annual report.

We will have a judging school in Vallejo April 14-15, 2018. We have 4 candidates so far.

Bob reminded all judges that the hard copy of the evaluation form has to be sent to ARS. Other copies should be sent to the district chair of horticulture as well as the apprentice.

Arrangement Judges Report – Martin Kooi Chair:
We currently have 9 accredited judges and two apprentice judges. All of the Arrangement judges submitted their annual reports.

An arrangement school was held in Sacramento February 17 and 18. 3 apprentice candidates passed the exams.

Martin is considering putting on another one-day workshop in the fall.

Membership Chair – Cindy Phipps:
Cindy will be working with the local society presidents to determine ARS membership by society as ARS does not have that information. She will then work with each society to find out what works for those with large ARS membership and see if it can be applied to other societies.

She also plans to send out a survey to ascertain what would make it worth the ARS membership fee to join and provide that feedback to ARS membership chair.

Programs & Speakers – Charlotte Owendyk Chair: Nothing to report at this time.

The Criterion – Linda and Ted Burg:
We currently have 38 hard copy subscribers to The Criterion. There will be a significant reduction in subscriptions starting in the fall due to societies providing The Criterion via emails to their members. 19 societies have subscribed to the electronic Criterion for their members.

Photography – Betty Mott Chair:
The First Edition ARS Photography Guidelines are posted on the ARS website. Some key changes are:

- Petals dropped off the frame should be penalized unless entry is in creative or macro classes
• Only public gardens must be named
• Arrangers must be named
• Budding photographer changed back to novice
• Macro outlying areas may be blurred or fuzzy
• Matting that distracts is grounds for penalization
• Beware of floating blooms (roses framed in foliage should be rewarded)

Betty has several talks scheduled this spring at local societies to discuss these changes and photography questions in general.

Nominations and Awards – Betty Mott Chair:

The 2018 District Silver Honor Medal process was initiated on January 2, 2018. The newly revised rules and regulations, nomination form, ARS individual award procedures and current list of NCNH District Silver Honor medal recipients were emailed to committee members with a February 15, 2018, cutoff date. The newly revised nomination form is easier to use.

The big change for this year’s nomination process was that: “The District Director, District Member of the National Nomination Committee (who shall be the District Awards Chairman) and members of the District Awards Committee or any member of their immediate family shall be eligible to receive this award.”

Trophies & Awards – Dave Coop Chair: Nothing to report

NCNH Web Mistress – Gail Trimble: Nothing to report

Raffle – Sue & Ernie Magill: $1065 was collected from the 2017 fall raffle.

Roses In Review – Cher Frechette Chair: Cher sent out a list of roses to be reviewed in 2018 to all of the societies so they could plan their 2018 rose purchases in advance.

District Directory – Richard Affleck Chair: The final 2018 NCNH directories were sent to Dave Coop for printing.

Historian – Ann Marie Harris Chair:

A historian’s job is at least three-fold: to gather and preserve records, to make those records available to others, and to tell the stories which those records can tell us. The document collection process is still underway. Creation of a digital library for District meeting minutes, financial records, show schedules, show results, show chair reports, and other records has been only partially successful as I have had access to only a few of those records. The situation has improved this year thanks to both Jolene Adams and Linda Berg for loaning missing copies of The Criterion for scanning. Thanks also to Carole for providing Betty Mott’s 2013-2015 Secretary’s binder for scanning. I would like to thank the law office of Richard Harris for its help in scanning many of these records.

We are now only missing the 2015 Summer, 2009 Spring, 2008 Winter, 1989 Spring-Summer, 1988 all, 1987 all, and pre-1986 issues. Your assistance in helping fill in the gaps would be appreciated. When the gaps are filled, disks will be offered as a fund-raiser for the District. This could be as early as this fall if the missing issues are made available for scanning by mid-summer. An index to articles in The Criterion has been started but will not be complete in time for the fall conference.

Nearly all documents in my possession as of February 28, 2018 have been scanned as pdf’s. These included District Directories, District RIR, The Criterion, Gail Carpenter’s 1999-2006 District records,
Betty Mott's 2013-2015 NCNH Secretary's records, and numerous newsletters from the Butte RS, Gold Country RS, East Hawaii RS, East Bay RS, Golden Sierra RS, Redwood Empire RS, Reno RS, Sacramento RS, San Mateo RS, Santa Clara County RS, Sierra Foothills RS, and other societies outside our District. Lists of these were distributed at the September 2017 meeting. Nearly all of the newsletters and a preliminary disk with pdf's were entrusted to the President or other society representatives at the NCNH District Board meeting on February 10, 2018. Whatever show schedules and local society membership rosters I have will be scanned later this year and added to the respective digital records. I am also adding the digital newsletters which were emailed to me beginning in 2001 plus photographs of local events. A readable/writable medium will be provided to each society so that their members have an opportunity to create a more complete digital record of newsletters, show schedules, rosters, photographs, and other items of historic note. Too many of these records have been permanently lost over the years as people move, clean out their garages, and die without passing those documents on to other members or their successors in office.

Site Development: Thomas Bolden Chair: No Report

CONVENTIONS AND BUSINESS MEETINGS:

District Fall Conference 2018 – October 6-7, 2018

“Blooms Among the Vines” – hosted by Lodi-Woodbridge Rose Society
Lodi Grape and Wine Festival Grounds – 413 East Rockford St., Lodi, CA

District Fall Conference 2019 – September 28-29, 2019
Holiday Inn, Auburn, CA – hosted by Gold Country Rose Society

Upcoming National Events:

May 4-6, 2018 - ARS Mini-Miniflora National Conference and Rose Show and Deep South Conference -- Hosted by Jacksonville RS – Jacksonville, Florida

October 25-29, 2018 -- ARS 2018 Fall National Convention and Rose Show and Pacific Southwest District Convention – Hosted by the San Diego RS. Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel, San Diego, CA

The general meeting ended at approximately 11:00 and was followed by an informative presentation by Diane Sommers on her views and goals for ARS. Meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carole Schmitz, Secretary